

**INDIANA ARTS COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

December 3, 2014

Arts Commission Office, 100 N. Senate Avenue, Room N505  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Trevor Yager, Chair

Minutes

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Jon Ford, Nancy Stewart

Members via teleconference: Trevor Yager

Members absent: Pam Hicks

Arts Commission staff present: Michelle Anderson, Dennis Hardin, Lewis Ricci

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Commissioner Trevor Yager called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. **Approval of Agenda and Previous Meeting Minutes.** Commissioner Nancy Stewart moved to adopt the consent agenda, consisting of the agenda for today's meeting and the minutes from the June 10, 2014 and September 3, 2014 meetings of the Executive Committee. Commissioner Kathy Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. **Financials.** Arts Commission Deputy Director Michelle Anderson presented a handout (attached) showing the FY 2015 budget, current through October 31, 2014.

4. **Review of Appropriations Needs for FY 2016 and FY 2017.** Arts Commission Executive Director Lewis Ricci presented a handout (attached) explaining the current state appropriation for the Arts Commission, and the appropriation increases desired to accommodate the proposed Bicentennial projects.

5. **Advocacy Approach to Upcoming Session.** Mr. Ricci reported on the recent meeting of the Ad-Hoc Advocacy Advisory Committee, which consists of current Commissioners and former Commission chairpersons.

6. **Regional Arts Partners RFP Documents Approval.** Mr. Ricci presented two documents (attached) which have been approved by the Programs, Grants and Services Committee regarding the process for application and selection of Regional Arts Partners. The approved process will employ Requests for Proposals (RFP) instead of grant applications. Commissioner Anderson moved to recommend that the full Commission approve the RFP documents as presented. Commissioner Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**7. AOS III, II and I Eligibility Documents Approval.** Mr. Ricci presented a document (attached) showing guidelines for determining eligibility of organizations applying for operating support from the Arts Commission. The guidelines have been approved for implementation by the Programs, Grants and Services Committee. Commissioner Stewart moved to recommend that the full Commission approve the Arts Operating Eligibility Guidelines as presented. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**8. Other Items of Concern for Quarterly Business Meeting.** Mr. Ricci presented a handout (attached) prepared for the Programs, Grants and Services Committee which shows the results of the application-review panel for the latest group of Statewide Cultural District applicants. The applications from the towns of Elkhart and New Harmony did not attain a qualifying score. The application from the town of Madison has been tentatively approved pending a site visit.

**9. Visit by NEA Chairman Jane Chu.** Mr. Ricci reported that the recently-appointed Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, Jane Chu, will be coming to central Indiana on March 6 – 7, 2015. The Arts Commission will participate in events related to her visit. The Executive Committee's consensus was that her visit would be a good opportunity to invite former Commissioners to attend an event.

**10. Alternative Cultural Trust Investment Strategies.** Mr. Ricci spoke about the funds in the Arts Commission's Cultural Trust, amounting to over 2.5 million dollars. All of the funds are invested in certificates of deposit which, in the current economy, do not generate very much interest. The interest from the Cultural Trust is used to fund Arts in Education programs. Mr. Ricci recently met with arts administrators from other states that have similar funds; at least one state uses its funds for loans to arts organizations with infrastructure projects. That state is able to realize a higher interest rate than it would otherwise garner from more conservative investments. However, the amount of funds in the Arts Commission's Cultural Trust is not great enough for a similar plan to be practical. Commissioner Jon Ford suggested that representatives from IAC contact the recently-appointed State Treasurer to explore possible investment options.

**11. Old Business/New Business.** There was no old business. There was no new business.

**12. Adjourn.** Commissioner Anderson moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Ford seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.